Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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SUBJECT: VISIT OF ENVIRONMENT MINISTER BRUNTLAND

1. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT IAN MACGREGOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS REQUESTED THE EMBASSY INVITE MINISTER BRUNTLAND TO ADDRESS THE 26TH CONGRESS OF THE ICC IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AN ENTREPRENEURIAL SOCIETY. INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ICC IS DETAILED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. IT IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED THAT AN INVITATION BE EXTENDED TO DR. GRO BRUNTLAND, MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, ON BEHALF OF IAN MACGREGOR, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, TO ADDRESS THE 26TH CONGRESS OF THE ICC IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 6.

3. THE ICC COMPRISES MORE THAN 50 NATIONAL COMMITTEES REPRESENTING BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN IN COUNTRIES WHERE PRI-
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VATE ENTERPRISE EXISTS. ITS HEADQUARTERS ARE IN PARIS, ITS ACTIVITIES EMBRACE POLICY MATTERS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES OF INTEREST TO WORLD BUSINESS, AND IT ENJOYS NON-GOVERNMENTAL OBSERVER STATUS VIS-A-VIS THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS ECONOMIC AGENCIES. ITS PRESIDENT THIS YEAR IS AN AMERICAN; ITS VICE PRESIDENT AN IRANIAN. ITS SECRETARY-GENERAL, CARL-HENRIK WINQWIST, IS FROM SWEDEN.

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4. ONCE IN THREE YEARS THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ICC MEETS IN A CONGRESS TO CONSIDER CERTAIN BROAD ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES AFFECTING PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE 23RD CONGRESS, IN VIENNA IN 1971, WHICH HAD AS ITS THEME "BUSINESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT", LED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FIRST ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES FOR WORLD INDUSTRY, ADOPTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE ICC IN JUNE, 1974.

5. THIS YEAR THE CONGRESS WILL MEET IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, OCTOBER 1 TO 6, WITH THE U.S. COUNCIL AS HOST AND WITH MORE THAN 1500 DELEGATES ATTENDING FROM DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, MANY OF THEM PROMINENT IN BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC LIFE. THE THEME OF THE CONGRESS IS ENTERPRISE, FREEDOM AND THE FUTURE. SUB-THEMES DEAL WITH THE ROLE OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT AND WITH CONSTRAINTS TO GROWTH AND TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

6. THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAM FEEL STRONGLY THAT THERE CAN BE NO MEANINGFUL DISCUSSION OF THE FUTURE WITHOUT TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE CHANGING ROLE OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY; THAT WOMEN COMPRISE A GROWING RESOURCE OF ENTREPRENEURIAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS; AND THAT THE QUALITY OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMIC DECISION-MAKING WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT UPON THE SOCIETIES IN WHICH THEY LIVE.
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7. FOR THIS REASON THE AFTERNOON SESSION DURING THE FINAL DAY OF THE CONGRESS IS TO BE DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION OF "WOMEN IN AN ENTREPRENEURIAL SOCIETY". IT WOULD BE A GREAT HONOR IF DR. BRUNTLAND WOULD AGREE TO ADDRESS THE CONGRESS ON THIS OCCASION ON ANY ASPECT OF THE SUBJECT SHE CHOOSES. SHE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY TWO OR THREE WOMEN WHO HAVE HAD RESPONSIBLE CAREERS IN BUSINESS, INDUSTRY, OR PUBLIC LIFE AND WHO WILL ADD THEIR OBSERVATIONS TO THOSE WHICH SHE MAY MAKE.

8. OTHER SPECIAL LECTURERS DURING THE WEEK-LONG PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE FRG CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT, AUSTRALIA'S PRIME MINISTER MALCOLM FRASER, AND SINGAPORE'S PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW. PRESIDENT CARTER AND UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM ARE EXPECTED TO ADDRESS THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION ON OCTOBER 1, AND DR. KISSINGER WILL DELIVER THE ADDRESS AT THE CLOSING CEREMONIES ON OCTOBER 6.

9. IF DR. BRUNTLAND FINDS IT POSSIBLE TO ACCEPT THIS INVITATION, SHE WILL, OF COURSE, BE THE GUEST OF THE ICC IN ORLANDO FOR AS MUCH OF THE PERIOD OF THE CONGRESS AS

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SHE HAS TIME FOR. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT SHE HAS ALREADY
MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE IN THE UNITED STATES IN MID-
SEPTEMBER. IT IS THE EARNEST HOPE OF THE ICC THAT THERE
WILL BE SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY IN HER SCHEDULE TO PERMIT
HER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ICC CONGRESS ON OCTOBER 6. CHRISTOPHER

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